Goods imported for off-shore and onshore drilling operations

1399. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount paid for goods imported for offshore and on-shore drilling operations by ONGC and Oil India Limited (OIL) during the last three years;

(b) the names of countries which supplied these goods with names of projects where these goods were used for drilling operations; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken by Government for domestic manufacture of such goods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) The amounts paid by ONGC and OIL for import of equipment for their drilling and related operations are as follows:

(Rs. crores)

	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
ONGC	561·00	708·00	669·00
OIL	21·64	29·30	51·12

(b) These imports were mainly made from USA, Japan, France, UK, Canada, Singapore, USSR, Romania, Czechoslovakia etc., for use at drilling locations spread all over the country.

(c) Government has encouraged the indigenisation of oil field equipment by making available a number of incentives to the domestic manufacturers such as benefit of deemed exports, price preference, customs|excise duty concessions etc.

Credit offered for HBJ pipeline from France

1400. SHRI THANGABAALU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that France has offered credit for HBJ pipeline project; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A project credit of FF. 1200 million has been given by Government of France to be used to finance the HBJ pipeline project.

Shortage of LPG in Uttar Pradesh

1401. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that consumers in Western Uttar Pradesh are facing severe shortage of cooking gas cylinders; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and the measures taken or being taken by Government in this regard?